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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL
 COUNTRY Czechoslovakia SECRETARY INFORMATION REPORT NO. 2000003-4
 TOPIC The 13th Heavy Tank Gun Regiment in Strassice
 EVALUATION 25X1A PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A
 DATE OF CONTENT 25X1A
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 REFERENCES 25X1A
 PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1A
 REMARKS

SOURCE

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General.

1. Prior to July 1952, the 13th Heavy Tank Gun Regiment was stationed in Strassice (Straschnetz) (N 50/L 34). 25X1C
 but its superior units were unknown. The political instructor repeatedly mentioned the first Military District and General Janko (fnu). 25X1
2. The regiment was quartered in an installation consisting of 20 to 30 wooden buildings and some one-story brick buildings and long tank garages. Six new three-story dwelling houses for officers were built between the installation and the town.
3. The regimental commander was Lieutenant Colonel Jan Cihlar; chief of staff was Major Matyska (fnu); deputy to the commander was Staff Captain Vasil Kobulej; political officer was Captain Hubacek (fnu); DOZ-officer was Karel Hruska; ordnance officer was Captain Vita (fnu); commander of the 1st Battalion was Senior Lieutenant Medroveic (fnu); commander of the 3d Battalion was Captain Bret (fnu); political officer of the 3d Battalion was Senior Lieutenant Kostka (fnu); commander of the 4th Battalion was Senior Lieutenant Emanuel Kohout; political officer of the 4th Battalion was Lieutenant Juris (fnu).
4. In July 1952, some members of the 1929 and many members of the 1930 classes, in a proportion of about 80 % Slovaks and 20 % Czechs, served with the regiment. 25X1X
 The last recruits, about 900, arrived at Strassice on 1 November 1951. Source learned from trained soldier that, prior to the arrival of the recruits, a larger number of trained men had been transferred to other posts, 25X1X
25X1X so that only about 200 men of the trained group remained.

Organization and strength.

5. The regiment consisted of the 1st, the 2d and the 3d Tank Battalions, the 4th Submachine Gun Battalion, and an NCO school. The regimental units included: the headquarters company of about 70 men, including engineers and a reconnaissance platoon; the workshop company of about 30 to 40 men; the transportation platoon of about 25 men; the supply platoon of 15 to 20 men; and an AA unit of about 30 men. The 1st, 2d

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and 3d Battalions were organized into three tank companies each, the 1st Company of the 1st Battalion totaling about 40 men. The 4th Sub-machine Gun Battalion was organized into three submachine gun companies, the 1st and 3d companies of which had a strength of about 40 men each. The NCO school of the regiment had a strength of more than 200 men. ⁴

Armament and equipment.

6. The 1st and the 22d Battalions were equipped with 20 to 30 armored vehicles each, most of them being Soviet SP guns and JS-tanks. The 3d Battalion was equipped with Soviet 12-mm SP guns. Each company had eight SP guns with a crew of five men each. In April 1952, 16 new T-34 tanks which had been shipped from Plzen (N 50/L 04) arrived at the Myto (Mauth) (N 50/L 34) railroad station. A short while before these new tanks arrived, about 15 old tanks had been dispatched to an unknown destination. The 4th Battalion was equipped with Czech 48 A-type submachine guns and a total of 18 x 26-type light machine guns. The AA company had five guns of approximately 50-mm caliber with two rubber tires which were towed by Ford type trucks. The NCO school had some T-34 tanks and old German heavy SP guns. ⁴
7. The total number of motor vehicles was estimated at about 50 Ford and Studebaker type trucks, 8 to 10 jeeps and 10 to 20 motorcycles.
8. In April 1952, silver tank emblems on the red-bordered black epaulets were worn by the EM of the three armored battalions. The black-bordered red epaulets of the 4th Battalion were provided with two crossed gold submachine guns, and the red-bordered black epaulets of the AA company had a gold insignia of an aircraft in a circle and a gun barrel. ⁵

Training.

9. The NCO school of the regiment started training in November 1951 after the arrival of the recruits. The course was scheduled to last for one year. A second NCO school in a strength of about 30 men was attached to the 4th Battalion. Its course began in February 1952 and was to last six months.

Other information.

10. A motorized unit, referred to as regiment, was quartered in a large number of brick buildings of the same installation. About 30 x 152-mm guns were in the open air. Half track vehicles which also carried the crew were used as prime movers. Some gun sheds were under construction for this artillery unit. ⁶
11. A construction battalion was employed in construction work in the installation and on roads to unidentified ammunition dumps. It was quartered in wooden buildings of the installation. ⁶
12. In the spring of 1952, the barracks installation was connected by Soviet officers who were accompanied by Czech Colonel Tesarik.

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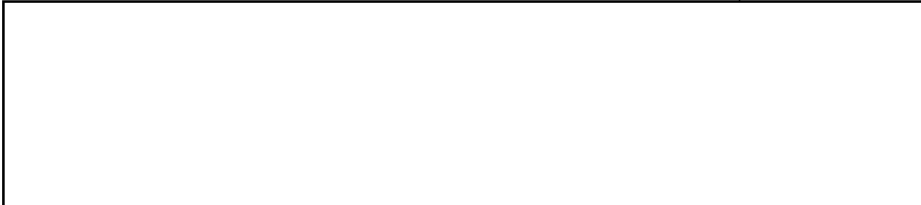


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13. Source did not remember hearing of a tank regiment in Vyskov. ³

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2. Comment. The high percentage of Slovaks is noteworthy. The information on the 1929 and 1930 classes confirms a previous assumption.

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3. Comment. No tank unit is known in Hradec Kralove. It is possible that a tank unit of the 8th Mecz Div is stationed there. The 11th Tank Brigade has been carried in Vyskov-Dedice. It is believed that this brigade has also been reorganized into a regiment. It is still uncertain whether it is subordinate to the tank corps as there is only a little information available on it, or possibly the 3d Mecz Div in Kromeritz.

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4. Comment. Organization and armaments of the regiment correspond in all essential points to a medium tank regiment of a Soviet mechanized division. The actual strength still seems to be approximately one third below the authorized strength.

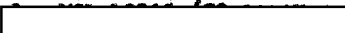
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5. Comment. It is believed that branch-of -service insignia on the epaulets have been generally worn since 1 April 1952.

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6. Comment. This information confirms statements by another deserter in October 1951 on an artillery unit and a military labor unit in Strasice.

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